

From: Soderlund, Dianne
Sent time: 07/02/2013 03:14:22 PM
To: Tyler, Kendra
Cc: Pirzadeh, Michelle; Curtis, Jennifer
Subject: FW: Update to Alaska High Priority Projects List
Attachments: Alaska Projects 5-14-13.xlsx

Hi Kendra,

Attached is the most recent update for the Alaska Large Projects List. (May) Jennifer Curtis works with the State to update this list before each meeting, but Jennifer won't be back in the office until next week and I will be on leave Monday and Tuesday. So, just in case Jennifer does not get to the list update for the July 10 meeting prior to Michelle's leaving Seattle, I would like this version to be placed in her folder. Please note there are three separate tabs that have to be printed. Thanks and I will talk with you later today or early tomorrow with any remaining materials.

Dianne Soderlund, Director
EPA Region 10
Alaska Operations Office
(907) 271-3425
soderlund.dianne@epa.gov

From: Curtis, Jennifer
Sent: Tuesday, May 14, 2013 11:27 AM
To: Soderlund, Dianne; Anderson-Carnahan, Linda; Szerlog, Michael; Reichgott, Christine
Subject: Update to Alaska High Priority Projects List

Hello All,

Please see the attached updated list for tomorrow's meeting. Updates are highlighted in red.

If you have any questions, please let me know.

Jennifer Curtis, NEPA Reviewer
US EPA-Alaska Operations Office
222. West 7th Avenue, #19
Anchorage, Alaska 99513
Phone: 907-271-6324
Fax: 907-271-3424

ALASKA PRIORITY PROJECTS

Lead Federal	Project Title	Responsible Person	Description & Link	Schedule
USFS	Greens Creek Mine Tailings Expansion EIS	<div>DNR/DEC Large Mine Project Team</div> <div>DEC Lead: Kenwyn George (WW), Ed Emswieler, (SW)</div> <div>DNR Lead: Sharmon Stambaugh/Kyle Moselle</div> <div>EPA Lead: Lynne McWhorter (NEPA), Cindi Godsey (WW), Vacant (404), Lorraine Edmond (OEA)</div> <div>Corps Lead: Heidi Firstencel</div>	<p>This silver mine (with some gold, zinc, and lead) is located southwest of Juneau. Based on known and anticipated ore reserves, the mine has a remaining life of approximately 22 years and will require a surface disposal capacity for roughly 6 million tons of tailings. Under the current permit, however, the existing tailings facility has capacity for only 1 million tons. A scoping summary report for the tailings expansion was released May 19, 2011. A decision is expected by Fall 2012. The Forest Service recently approved plans for geotechnical and exploration drilling related to this project.</p> <p>http://www.fs.fed.us/r10/tongass/projects/nepa_project.shtml?project=32662</p> <p>The EPA, Corp of Engineers, DNR and the City and Borough of Juneau are all cooperating agencies on the U.S. Forest Service EIS.</p> <p>Will require a 404 modification and DEC 401 cert. Will also require a DEC Solid Waste permit and change in the reclamation bond from DNR.</p>	USFS is preparing preliminary draft EIS which went out for cooperating agency review on Feb. 11. Region 10 continues to work with State of Alaska and USFS on financial assurance.
COE	Chuitna Coal Project Supplemental EIS	<div>DNR/DEC Large Mine Project Team</div> <div>DEC Lead: Gerry Brown (WW), No SW</div> <div>DNR Lead: Tom Crafford, Russ Kirkham</div> <div>EPA Lead: Jamey Stoddard (WW), Erik Peterson (NEPA), Matt LaCroix (404)</div> <div>Corps Lead: Marcia Heer</div>	<p>his proposed surface coal mine is located on the west side of Cook Inlet near the Native Village of Tyonek and community of Beluga, approximately 45 miles west of Anchorage. The Project would extract low sulfur sub-bituminous coal from the Beluga Coal Field for a minimum 25-year life of the mine and a production rate of up to 12 million tons per year for export. Would be largest coal mine in Alaska history. The original EIS (1989/90) was undertaken by EPA, since they would have been issuing an NPDES permit. The Corps is the lead agency for the current EIS. The Native Village of Tyonek, ADNRR, USFWS, and EPA are cooperating agencies. Cooperating agencies have reviewed and commented on several preliminary sections of SEIS. Corps and EPA currently in discussions re: potential consideration of a small mine alternative in the SEIS. Next steps in SEIS are affected environment, impacts, and mitigation. NVT has requested a meeting with EPA leadership at HQ in April. Pre-briefings and HQ/R10 coordination under way. During the April 3, 2013, meeting at HQ NVT presented a letter to Acting Admin. Bob Perciaseppe requesting EPA exercise its 404(c) veto authority to prohibit the Corps from permitting the project. A response is being coordinated out of HQ. The State of Alaska is getting prepared to issue their Chuitna site-specific water quality criteria proposal for public review and comment in the next 1-2 months.</p>	<p>No state-issued development permits have been issued, waiting for updated permit applications.</p> <p>Federal permitting will begin once SEIS is completed. Preliminary draft SEIS for cooperating agency review in late-2013.</p> <p>Draft SEIS for public comment in mid-2014. No official schedule has been provided.</p>
COE	Pogo Mine Tailings Facility Expansion	<div>DEC Lead: Tim Pilon (WW), No SW</div> <div>DNR Lead: Sharmon Stambaugh</div> <div>EPA Lead: Cindi Godsey (WW), Vacant (404)</div> <div>Corps Lead: Ben Soiseth</div>	<p>This conventional underground gold mine is located 90 miles southeast of Fairbanks. Delta Junction is 40 miles southwest. Produces 400,000 ounces of gold per year. Plan to expand their dry stack tailing facility. This requires a modification of their 404 permit.</p> <p>Renewal of Integrated Waste Management Permit requires approval from DEC. Renewal of Plan of Operations requires approval from DNR</p>	
	Fort Knox Mine	DEC Lead: Tim Pilon (WW), Ken Spires (SW)	This open-pit gold mine is located 26 miles northeast of Fairbanks and produces 330,000 ounces of gold per year. Located on state lands and Mental Health Trust lands. 404 permit modification for tailings dam expansion approved. Currently reviewing an update to the renewal of the mine reclamation and closure plan. Beginning environmental audit as required by millsite lease and	APDES permit effective October 1

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		DNR Lead: Sharmon Stambaugh EPA Lead: Cindi Godsey (WW) Corps Lead: Ben Soiseth	waste management permit. Facilitating closure activities for True North Mine, a satellite operation located 11 miles away.	
	Donlin Creek Mine PROPOSED MINE	DEC Lead: Renee Evans (WW), Lori Aldridge (SW) DNR Lead: Jeff Bruno EPA Lead: Mark Jen (PM/NEPA), Vacant (404), Tami Fordham (Tribal), Cindi Godsey (WW) Corps Lead: Don Kuhle	The proposed Donlin Creek Mine is located on the Yukon-Kuskokwim Delta in Southwest Alaska, approximately 120 miles upstream from Bethel. Large, undeveloped refractory gold deposit is location on lands owned by the Kuskokwim Village Corporation (surface) and Calista Regional Corporation (subsurface). The proposal is for an open pit mine measuring two miles wide and one mile wide. They are looking at building a 325 mile natural gas pipeline to provide power for the mine operations. Nearby deposits include naturally occurring mercury. EPA is a Cooperating Agency, along with the BLM, USFWS, DOT (Pipeline and Hazardous Materials Safety Administration), and ADNR. Cooperating Tribal Governments include Crooked Creek, Chuathbaluk, Napaimute, and the Kuskokwim Watershed Council.	On December 14, the Corps published a Notice of Intent (NOI) to prepare an EIS. Public scoping meetings began in mid-January 2013, starting in Bethel, Aniak, and Crooked Creek, and continue to other communities in the Yukon-Kuskokwim region until March. The EPA team provided scoping comments to the Corps on March 29, 2013.
	Pebble Mine PROPOSED MINE	DEC Lead: Allan Nakanishi (WW), Lori Aldridge (SW) DNR Lead: Sharmon Stambaugh EPA Lead: Corps Lead: Katie McCafferty	<p>The proposed Pebble Project is a copper/gold/molybdenum mineral deposit located 200 miles southwest of Anchorage. The proposal is for large-scale mining project on state lands. The company expects to complete a pre-feasibility study in 2012. The project will require road access and a supply of electrical power in addition to the project’s mining footprint. In response to a petition from nine tribal governments, EPA has initiated a watershed assessment of the Nushagak and Kvichak watersheds in Bristol Bay under the authority of Section 404(c) of the Clean Water Act. Public meetings on the 404(c) assessment are planned for Spring 2012. A ballot initiative before the voters in the Lake and Peninsula Borough that would change borough law to prevent the granting of permit to a mine that would have a “significant adverse impact” on salmon streams.</p> <p>In planning stage. Will require an EIS and 404 permits once a final proposal is available</p>	<p>Still in pre-application phase. Anticipate application will be submitted in late 2012</p> <p>It is anticipated that planning and permitting the project will take approximately seven years.</p>
	Livengood Project	DEC Lead: Tim Pilon (WW) DNR Lead: Sharmon Stambaugh EPA Lead: Cindi Godsey (WW) Corps Lead: Katie McCafferty	This gold mining project is located 70 miles northwest of Fairbanks. International Tower Hill (ITH) plans to release a pre-feasibility study in mid-November 2011 and begin submitting applications within the next 12 months. The preliminary studies point to a big mill operation rather than a heap leach process operation. The big unknown would be providing power for the mill operations: on-site generation vs. transmission line to the mine. Already accessed via the Elliot Highway and the Trans-Alaska Pipeline System is located only four miles away. In full production, this mine could be larger than the Fort Knox mine, noted above. In theory the full feasibility study would be done in parallel with the NEPA review, so that the project is deemed feasible around the same time the project EIS is completed. Will require 404 permits	

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	Usibelli Jumbo Dome Mine PROPOSED MINE	DEC Lead: Tim Pilon (WW) DNR Lead: Russ Kirkham EPA Lead: Cindi Godsey (WW), Gayle Martin (404) Corps Lead: Greg Mazer	This coal mining project is located near Healy and is expanding through the acquisition of state leases in an area known as Jumbo Dome. This project is proposed by Usibelli and involves coal with very low sulfur content. The project would ultimately encompass 1,101 acres (approximately 160 acres of which is wetlands) over five 5-year terms. Usibelli filed Pre-Construction Notifications with the Corps in September 2011 for the first 5-year term of mining of 497.7 acres (28.2 acres of which are in wetlands), and for a 5.6 mile haul road (impacting 3.05 acres of wetlands), to be covered under Nationwide Permit 21. EPA commented in November 2011 to the Corps that the extent of impacts from this project were too large for a nationwide permit to apply.	The Corps verified use of NWP 21 for the haul road portion of the project in December 2011, and for Term 1 of the mine in February 2012. NWP 21 expired in March 2012, and was re-issued with a limit of 0.5 acres; nonetheless, a grandfathering provision of the reissuance allowed surface coal mining activities that had been previously verified by the 2007 NWP 21 to be reauthorized without applying the new limits imposed on the reissued 2012 NWP 21 with re-verification by the Corps. The Corps re-verified Usibelli's use of NWP 21 for the haul road and Term 1 of the mine on December 21, 2012, with an expiration date of March 18, 2017.
	Usibelli Wishbone Hill Mine	DEC Lead: Allan Nakanishi (WW) DNR Lead: Russ Kirkham EPA Lead: Cindi Godsey (WW), Tami Fordham (Tribal), Matt LaCroix (404) Corps Lead: Victor Ross	Usibelli is seeking permits from the state in order to mine coal from 800 acres near Palmer and Sutton in the Matanuska Valley. The mine would produce up to 500,000 tons of coal per year for 12 years. There is local concern about potential impacts from fugitive dust. The Native Village of Chickaloon has also voiced concern about potential impacts to drinking water, surface and groundwater, subsistence foods, and religious and cultural practices. The current Surface Mining permit expires in November. ADNR recently made decision to renew the lease. HIA currently being developed and will be made available for public comment. ADEC anticipates issuing a minor source permit .	Exploration delayed until after 2012.
	Niblack Mine PROPOSED MINE	DEC Lead: Kenwyn George (WW), Ed Emswiler (SW) DNR Lead: Sharmon Stambaugh/Kyle Moselle EPA Lead: Cindi Godsey (WW) Corps Lead: Heidi Firstencel	This copper-gold-silver-zinc mine is located on Prince of Wales Island within the Eudora Inventoried Roadless Area, southwest of Ketchikan. Opposition groups have proposed a Kegan Lakes Watershed Wild and Scenic River Area in the vicinity. The Project is in an advanced exploration phase, including 6000 feet of underground tunneling and 25,000 feet of underground drilling. The Forest Service recently approved additional geotechnical and exploration drilling. They expect to apply for development permits in 2012 and hope to begin construction of the mine in 2014. Power at the mine site could come from hydroelectric resources, but no decisions have been made at this time.	Pre-application phase, exploration is ongoing
	Rock Creek Mine	DEC Lead: Tim Pilon (WW), Doug Butine (SW) DNR Lead: Sharmon Stambaugh EPA Lead: Cindi Godsey (WW), Thor Cutler (UIC) Corps Lead: Victor Ross	<p>Consists of open-pit gold mines: Rock Creek Mine located six miles north of Nome and Big Hurrah Mine located 42 miles east of Nome. Rock Creek Mine located on land owned by NovaGold Resources and Bering Straits Native Corporation. Big Hurrah Mine located on land owned by NovaGold and surround lands owned by Salomon Native Corporation.</p> <p>State agencies are reviewing a permanent reclamation and closure plan, an APDES water discharge permit and an integrated waste management permit while the company considers selling the project or closing it permanently.</p>	NovaGold announced on Nov 1 the transfer to Bering Straits Native Corporation

Lead Federal	Project Title	Responsible Person	Description & Link	Schedule
Surface Transportation Board	Northern Rail Extension	DEC Lead: NA DNR Lead: NA EPA Lead: Gayle Martin (404) Corps Lead: Ellen Lyons	This project involves the construction of a new 80-mile rail line from North Pole to Delta Junction. The federal Surface Transportation Board completed an environmental impact statement (EIS) in 2009 and issued a Record of Decision in January 2010, despite concerns expressed by the EPA on the final EIS. Phase I of the project includes the construction of a new bridge crossing the Tanana River. 404 permit issued by the Corps but did not authorize temporary fill.	Five different minor permit modifications have been authorized for temporary fill and other minor changes to the project. The levee construction is 95% complete, and the construction of the bridge piers was started in July 2012. Temporary fill for a causeway/trestle system to construct the bridge will soon be removed, prior to break-up. Bridge construction will resume in late summer 2013.
Surface Transportation Board	Port MacKenzie Rail Extension	DEC Lead: NA DNR Lead: NA EPA Lead: Matt LaCroix (404) Corps Lead: Ben Soiseth	This project involves the construction of a 32-mile rail extension line from the Houston area to Port MacKenzie to transport freight from Interior Alaska. The federal Surface Transportation Board released the Final EIS on March 25, 2011. The ARRC is undertaking engineering, design, land acquisition, and seeking permits from both federal and State agencies.	Corps issued the 404 permit September 10, 2012. ARRC has acquired ROWs.
USFWS	Izembek Land Exchange EIS	DEC Lead: N/A DNR Lead: Ellen Simpson EPA Lead: Jennifer Curtis (NEPA), Matt LaCroix (404) Corps Lead: Heather Boyer	<p>Congress has approved the land exchange, but an EIS needs to be done for a single lane gravel road connecting the communities of King Cove and Cold Bay. Draft Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) is out for public review. A final EIS scheduled for October 2012 and a Record of Decision (ROD) is anticipated December 2012. Secretary of the Interior will need to do a public interest determination after the ROD.</p> <p>Cooperating Agencies: Corps, Federal Highway Administration, DNR, Aleutians East Borough, City of King Cove, King Cove Corp., Agdaagux Tribe of King Cove, Native Village of Belkofski, Alaska Migratory Bird Co-management Council.</p>	Region 10 submitted comments on the Final EIS, which addressed most of our concerns. DOI has yet to issue the ROD/Public Interest Determination.
COE	Foothills West Access Project EIS (Road to Umiat)	DEC Lead: NA DNR Lead: NA EPA Lead: Gayle Martin (404), Jennifer Curtis (NEPA) Corps Lead: Melissa Riordan	<p>Alaska DOT is applying to build the road from the Dalton Highway or the Spine Road to Umiat, in the foothills of the Brooks Range, in order to open the area for resource (oil and gas) extraction. Corps of Engineers has developed preliminary alternatives to be evaluated in the draft EIS.</p> <p>Federal permits required: Corps: Section 404 wetlands, Section 106 Historical, Section 10 Rivers EPA: Section 404 permit review USFWS: Section 7 ESA USCG: Permit for bridge over navigable waters BLM: Right of Way permit, material site authorizations</p> <p>State permits required: DNR: Material site authorizations, SHPO permit, Right of Way (ROW) permit, Water use permit, material sales and field study authorizations DEC: APDES wastewater permit ADF&G: Fish habitat and fish passage DNR OPMP is a cooperating agency.</p>	A hydrology workshop scheduled for November 2012 was cancelled. The EIS process has been postponed, pending receipt of information from the applicant.

Lead Federal	Project Title	Responsible Person	Description & Link	Schedule
FHWA	Knik Arm Crossing	DEC Lead: NA	The proposed project would build a 2.7 mile vehicular toll bridge across Knik Arm to the the Port of Anchorage area with the Port Mackenzie area. Project would also include 19 miles of road to support the bridge’s accessibility. This project is being developed to meet the current and projected transportation needs of the Municipality of Anchorage and the Mat-Su Borough and was identified as a high priority infrastructure project by the Governor of Alaska in September 2003. A final EIS was signed December 2007. NMFS recently issued a Biological Opinion. Record of Decision (ROD) was issued by the Federal Highway Administration December 15, 2010.	EPA commented on Corps PN in January 2012.
		DNR Lead:	Federal Highway Administration is the lead agencies for this project. Final design and construction could be completed as early as 2016. Planners are currently working obtaining properties located in the right-of-way on the Anchorage side of the proposed bridge. State funding is not yet secured for 2012/2013.	
		EPA Lead: Matt LaCroix (404)		
		Corps Lead: Nicole Hayes		
COE	Ambler Mining District Transportation Corridor	DEC Lead: N/A	The Ambler Mining District Access project will evaluate potential transportation corridors serving the Ambler Mining District. The purpose is to provide all season access for exploration and development of potential resources within this district. The work will include the evaluation of transportation modes such as roads, rail, barge and airport networks. The transportation corridor will also address critical infrastructure needs for the development of natural resources such as power generation and communications. ADOT is project sponsor. ADOT project manager is Ryan Anderson, ADOT Environmental contact is Bruce Campbell.	EPA has had no recent contact on this project.
		DNR Lead: NA		
		EPA Lead: Jennifer Curtis (NEPA), Gayle Martin (404)		
		Corps Lead: Mary Likom		
FHWA	Juneau Access Improvement Project	DEC Lead: NA	The Juneau Access Revised Supplemental EIS will evaluate a court-ordered alternative to bolster existing Alaska Marine Highway System assets as well as update other action alternatives. EPA continues to be a cooperating agency on this project and recently submitted scoping comments (Feb 2012). Project purpose is to improve connection between Juneau and Haines/Skagway.	Scoping comments were submitted February 2012. No recent update on when PSDEIS may be available for cooperating agency review.
		DNR Lead: Kyle Mozzell		
		EPA Lead: Jennifer Curtis (NEPA), Matt LaCroix (404)		
		Corps Lead: Heidi Firstencel		

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COE	Point Thompson	DEC Lead: Gary Mendivil, Lori Aldridge DNR Lead: Sara Longan EPA Lead: Gayle Martin (404), Jennifer Curtis (NEPA) Corps Lead: Hank Baij	ExxonMobil proposal to produce oil, gas and hydrocarbon condensate from the Point Thomson Sand Reservoir and delineate other hydrocarbon resources in the Point Thomson area. Final EIS scheduled for summer 2012 with a Record of Decision (ROD) by September 2012. The Corps anticipates issuing a second public notice. Settlement Agreement between State, ExxonMobil and other working interest companies was signed March 29, 2012. EPA, USFWS, and State of Alaska were cooperating agencies.	Corps issued its ROD November 2013. All major permits and leases received. Construction underway.
BOEM	OCS Five Year Lease Plan 2012-2017	DEC Lead: Gary Mendivil DNR Lead: Sara Longan EPA Lead: Jennifer Curtis (NEPA) Corps Lead: NA	Nationwide Plan for lease sales over a five year period. Plan identifies the size, timing and location of proposed lease sales that the Secretary of the Interior determines will best meet national energy needs for the 5-year period following it approval by Congress. R10 submitted comments on the Draft EIS to EPA OFA; OFA rated the Draft EIS "Lack of Objections". No additional comments were submitted on the Final EIS.	Record of Decision was issued on August 27, 2012. ROD includes Chukchi Sea Lease Sale 237 in 2016, Cook Inlet Lease Sale 244 in 2016, and Beaufort Sea Lease Sale 242 in 2017.
BLM	National Petroleum Reserve – Alaska (NPR-A) IAP/EIS	DEC Lead: Gary Mendivil, Lori Aldridge (SW) DNR Lead: Sara Longan EPA Lead: Jennifer Curtis (NEPA) Corps Lead: Mike Holly	The Bureau of Land Management (BLM) is developing Environmental Impact Statement for an Integrated Activity Plan (IAP) for the National Petroleum Reserve – Alaska. EPA submitted scoping comments in September 2010. EPA was recently contacted by BLM to review the proposed Air Quality modeling protocol per the national Air Quality MOU. Modeling was not included in the Draft EIS. FWS, NSB and ADNR are cooperating agencies.	EPA Region 10 submitted comments on the Final EIS on January 28, 2013. BLM selected modified Alternative B-2 which we identified as environmentally preferable.
FERC	Alaska Pipeline Project (Transcanada / Exxon)	DEC Lead: Gary Mendivil, Tim Spires (SW) DNR Lead: Jodi Delgado-Plikat (SPCO) EPA Lead: Mark Jen (PM/NEPA), Gayle Martin (404) Corps Lead: Mike Holly	The Federal Energy Regulatory Commission (FERC) is drafting an Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) for a project proposed by TransCanada / ExxonMobil that would connect Alaska’s vast natural gas resources with new markets. Deadline for FERC Certificate of Public Necessity and Convenience was October 2011. The deadline for the EIS is 18 months later.	Project is currently on hold pending evaluation of tidewater alternative.
FERC	Susitna-Watana Hydroelectric Project	DEC Lead: NA DNR Lead: NA EPA Lead: Matt LaCroix (404), Jennifer Curtis (PM/NEPA)	The Susitna-Watana Hydroelectric Project would involve construction of a dam on the Susitna River at river mile 184, approximately half-way between Anchorage and Fairbanks. The 750-foot high dam would be the second tallest in the U.S. and would create a reservoir 39 miles long and a maximum of 2 miles wide. Installed capacity would be 600 MW with the average annual generation determined to be 2600 GWhrs (HDR 2009). Load-following operation (i.e., releasing water from the reservoir synchronous with electricity demand) is proposed. The project proponent, Alaska Energy Authority, has described the project as scalable up to an 880-foot high dam. EPA is a cooperating agency along with the Corps and USDA-RUS.	All 58 studies have been approved by FERC and summer field studies are beginning. Technical working group meetings are ongoing.

Lead Federal	Project Title	Responsible Person	Description & Link	Schedule
		Corps Lead: Mary Likom		
COE	Alaska Stand Alone Pipeline (ASAP) Project	<div>DEC Lead: Gary Mendivil</div> <div>DNR Lead: Jodi Delgado-Plikat (SPCO), Mike Thompson</div> <div>EPA Lead: Mark Jen (PM/NEPA), Gayle Martin (404)</div> <div>Corps Lead: Mary Romero</div>	<div>The proposed project would construct a 24-inch diameter, high pressure natural gas pipeline from the North Slope to southcentral Alaska.</div> <div>The Corps is the lead federal agency. BLM, NPS, EPA and ADNR are cooperating agencies.</div>	The Notice of Availability of the Final EIS was published in the Federal Register on October 26, 2012. Although the FEIS was recently completed, the Corps has closed the 404 file pending direction from the applicant.
BOEM	Shell OCS Beaufort Sea	<div>DEC Lead: Gary Mendivil</div> <div>DNR Lead: Sara Longan</div> <div>EPA Lead: Erin Seyfried (NPDES), Natasha Greaves (Air)</div> <div>Corps Lead: NA</div>	<div>Shell’s Exploration Plan for 2012 drilling in the Beaufort Sea was deemed submitted by BOEM in July 2011. BOEM issued an Environmental Assessment and FONSI with their conditional approval in August 2011.</div> <div>EPA issued Final Shell Discoverer Air Permits on Jan 27, 2012. Petitions for review before the 9th Circuit Court of Appeals must be filed by April 10, 2012.</div> <div>EAB denied all petitions for review on the Kulluk on March 30, 2012.</div> <div>EPA has begun development of a NPDES general permit for discharge of pollutants from geotechnical surveying activities in federal waters of the Chukchi and Beaufort Seas. The State of Alaska DEC plans to issue a similar general permit for discharges to state waters. Geotechnical surveying activities include collection of sediment borings to assess seafloor conditions for potential installations of development and production platforms, ice islands, anchor structures for floating exploration drilling vessels, and for buried oil delivery pipeline systems. The draft general permit is planned to be released for public review in fall 2013; with a final permit to be issued in spring 2014.</div>	<div>EPA sent a Federal Register notice to HQ for publication, announcing final agency action on the minor revision of the Kulluk permit.</div> <div>NPDES: The two Petitions for Review (AEWC and AWL, et al) filed with the 9th Circuit challenging EPA's issuance of the Beaufort and Chukchi general permits have been formally consolidated. Petitioners' briefs are due June 17; the government's response brief is due August 30. Shell and ConocoPhillips have intervened in the case.</div> <div>Shell announced that it will suspend offshore drilling activities in 2013.</div>
BOEM	Shell OCS Chukchi Sea	<div>DEC Lead: Gary Mendivil</div> <div>DNR Lead: Sara Longan</div> <div>EPA Lead: Erin Seyfried (NPDES), Natasha Greaves (Air)</div>	<div>The Bureau of Ocean Energy Management (BOEM) issued conditional approval of Shell Gulf of Mexico, Inc.’s revised Exploration Plan under leases in the Chukchi Sea Planning Area on Dec. 16, 2011. In its Exploration Plan, Shell proposes drilling up to six exploration wells in Alaska’s Chukchi Sea beginning in the 2012 drilling season.</div> <div>Shell continues air emission testing for the Beaufort and Chukchi drill ships and support vessels covered under the EPA-issued air permits. R10 is reviewing testing results. Shell received NPDES permit coverage from EPA on June 23, 2011 to discharge exploration wastewater to the Beaufort and Chukchi Seas under the now expired Arctic NPDES General Permit.</div> <div>On September 9, 2012, EPA issued a Compliance Order to Shell allowing air emission discharges above the limits established in the Disco Chukchi permit.</div> <div>On October 29, 2012, EPA issued the final Beaufort and Chukchi NPDES General Permits. The permits are effective on November 28, 2012. Operators that received coverage under the expired permit must submit new Notices of Intent (NOIs) complying with the terms and conditions of the Beaufort and Chukchi general permits. Operators must submit the NOIs 120 days prior to initiation of discharges.</div>	<div>AIR: Shell submitted a revised permit application on November 29, 2012. EPA sent Shell a letter of Incompleteness on December 31, which included a list of information needed to deem the application complete. Shell intends to submit an additional permit revision request to EPA in early January.</div> <div>NPDES: The two Petitions for Review (AEWC and AWL, et al) filed with the 9th Circuit challenging EPA's issuance of the Beaufort and Chukchi general permits have been formally consolidated. Petitioners' briefs are due June 17; the government's response brief is due August 30. Shell and ConocoPhillips have intervened in the case.</div>

Lead Federal	Project Title	Responsible Person	Description & Link	Schedule
		Corps Lead: NA	Geotechnical NPDES general permit (see above).	9th Circuit challenging EPA's issuance of the Beaufort and Chukchi general permits have been formally consolidated. Petitioners' briefs are due June 17; the government's response brief is due August 30. Shell and ConocoPhillips have intervened in the case. Shell announced that it will suspend offshore drilling activities in 2013.
BOEM	OCS Lease Sale 193 (Chukchi Sea)	DEC Lead: Gary Mendivil DNR Lead: Sara Longan EPA Lead: Jennifer Curtis (NEPA) Corps Lead: NA	BOEM issued a final Supplemental EIS for OCS Lease Sale 193 in the Chukchi Sea in August 2011. The EIS included an analysis of a Very Large Oil Spill (VLOS). The SEIS was in response to a court ordered remand to address the affects of natural gas development as well as addressing incomplete, missing, or unavailable information. The Secretary of the Interior affirmed the lease sale. Alaska District Court judge dismissed appeal. R10 rated the Draft SEIS "Lack of Objections". NMFS and the North Slope Borough were cooperating agencies on this EIS.	
EPA	Cook Inlet	DEC Lead: Gerry Brown DNR Lead: Don Perrin (Bucaneer), Patricia Beeti (Escopeta) EPA Lead: Cindi Godsey Corps Lead: Shannon Morgan	The Cook Inlet GP is being split into multiple permits: EPA NPDES GP for exploration discharges into federal waters, ADEC APDES GP for exploration discharges into state waters, and one or more ADEC APDES permits for development and production discharges to state waters. On January 29, 2013, the U.S. Court of Appeals granted the parties' joint motion to dismiss the appeal filed by Trustees for Alaska.	General Permits went to 60-day public notice on March 22. Hearings were held in Kenai, Homer and Anchorage.